

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Jacqueline Gonzalez , I am a Resident from West Haven

I stand in support of HB 6616: An Act Concerning Expansion Of Husky Health Benefits To Those Ineligible Due To Immigration Status. Expanding access to HUSKY regardless of immigration status is an important step in ensuring our immigrant community has access to the healthcare we need. But our work doesn't end with expanding access up to age 26; we need to open access to HUSKY and healthcare to all immigrants of any age. If Connecticut wants a future that includes healthy families and a stable, thriving and growing workforce that is ready to meet the needs of our future, Connecticut must ensure that these individuals have access to health coverage.

I am a resident of West Have and I care about this because I DO receive Husky insurance and it is a big help for me. I would like other people to have the same rights as me, who was born in the U.S.. Access to healthcare is a human right.

My mother is undocumented and does not have healthcare Having to see my mom reconsider her health concerns to see if she has enough money to go to the doctor is alarming. Money should not be her first concern if she feels she is physically ill.

Physical health is connected to mental health. If people are able to take care of themselves, their overall mental health would improve. I care about my community's well-being.

I support **HB 6616** and I ask the committee to support and pass this legislation. Looking forward, I ask the committee to work towards opening access to all immigrants regardless of age.

Thank you for your time,

Jacqueline Gonzalez